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Man, Know Thyself.



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Man, Know Thyself.

BY JOHN W. RAIKES.

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Brief Sketch of Author's Life.

JOHN W. RAIKES, born of negro parents, July the 8th, 1850, in New Castle County, State of Delaware.

Converted, February, 1882, and have filled offices in the Church, as Class-leader, Steward, and Trustee.

As, a leader, I would not sell love-feast tickets on Sunday, nor receive any money, but the books showed that my class was the best paying class in the Church, according to the members, and they mostly young people. They liked me, and I liked them, but the Pastor thought it best to make a change.

As Steward, about two weeks before Conference, I asked the Secretary, what we owed the Pastor? And he said "forty dollars."

I made a motion, that we pay the Pastor the balance of his salary, and put the rest in the treasury, for the next Pastor.

I think all of the Brethren said, "It was the best thing done in the board."

I told them, I was glad they thought so; you may not think so before it is all over;

although I don't see how any one could think different. He gets his salary; what more? I hope you will all stick to it.

Now the Pastor, and the older members of the board were not there, but when they heard, they saw the members of the board and changed their minds.

When we met the following Monday night, we had a hundred and forty dollars.

I think they asked every man, to speak on it, but it was worse after the main ones had spoken, for then they all agreed to with-draw what they had said.

When all had spoken, then they asked me, I said, "I'm the same now, as I was before, and I think the same. We pay the Pastor eight hundred and fifty dollars a year, house-rent and fuel given, and I think he can live nicely on that. Some of us don't get four hundred a year, and have to pay house-rent and keep our families." But they gave him that money.

Then the Pastor said, "He didn't think he had a man in his board with such a spirit as Brother Raikes."

Later on, I was elected Trustee, and the very night we met to organize, some ladies came in to borrow some money for a fair; I objected to it, but it passed, and they went in to make arrangements. The Pastor appointed me to

stand at the door, and sell tickets for certain nights. I told him, I didn't approve of Church fairs.

He remarked, "you are a Trustee now, and will have to do it."

I told him I wouldn't, then said he, "send in your resignation," this I did.

All these things, did not happen under the same Pastor, but to be an officer in the Church, and to be true to your righteous convictions, means something.

I asked the Pastor to let me have an early six o'clock meeting, if the Trustees would be willing? Some were opposed to it, but the Pastor said, "let him have it, it won't amount to anything." So he told me, "to go ahead."

The first Sunday morning, no one came, but the Lord wonderfully blessed me, and I said, "if no body comes, I will be found here." The next Sunday morning two came, then they began to come, until it grew to be a nice gathering, of people from different churches, different nations, and was a power in the City.

The Pastor spoke of it from the pulpit, what a blessing it was to the Church, and how he enjoyed it.

He didn't come in the room, where the meeting was, but sat in an adjoining room, and

his reason for doing so, was, sometimes he might not be able to stay until it was out, then he could go without interrupting the meeting. He has taken my hand many times and said, "God bless you."

Now this very same Pastor, one morning was in the adjoining room, and I was explaining to the people about Jesus, entry into Jerusalem, how they cried hosanna in the highest, and taken their garments and spread them in the way.

In a few days, the same people were saying, "crucify him."

And I said, you don't often hear it explained why they turned against Jesus.

While the people were honoring Jesus, the High Priest, Scribes, and Elders held a council, and they said, "we will tell the people, that Jesus said, he would tear down this temple, and in three days build it again," they also instructed the people, to ask for Barabbas and crucify Jesus. This was all done, by the Chief Priest, Scribes, and Elders.

The same week, my leader notified me to meet the board, but he wouldn't say, what for. But I met a Brother, who was a member of the board, and a friend, and I asked him, but he said, if you won't say anything about it. I said, I can't do that, but I won't say who told me, (for

all had been instructed not to tell me anything about it.)

So he said, they have a charge against you, for preaching without license, and there will be three men, at the next Sunday morning meeting, to be witnesses that you preach; so he asked me not to read the bible that morning.

I went to Church as usual, in came the men, one by one, I didn't let on, I knew anything about them being there.

"I opened, by giving the number of the hymn. I seen one take note, after prayers, I said, I would read a few verses of Scripture, (giving out the chapter) he again taking note.

Then in came the Pastor; I went on, as I was explaining and telling the people the differences between will power, and the power of God, by experiences.

The Pastor arose, and said, "stop! you shall not preach in this Church without license."

When he was done, I said to the people, we will speak, sing, and pray, we had a nice meeting no one spoke of the things that had happened.

The spies went out one by one till all of them was gone, the Pastor leaving first.

When the meeting was over, and the people out on the Street, you could hear in low tones, "did you ever see anything like that?"

Then on Monday night, I was to meet the board, and when I met them, the Pastor said, "here is Brother Raikes, now we will proceed."

"Brother Raikes, you are charged here for preaching without license, you are to ask this board to forgive you, and you are not to read the Bible any more in this Church; are you willing?"

I said, "do you really mean I preach?"

Yes, he said, "you preach just as acceptable as some of our ordained men, and you can't do it here."

I then said, "it does seem hard, to be brought here as a criminal, after being in this Church for twenty years, and have given the Church an upright life, and my money."

I also said, "why didn't you tell me, I was doing things contrary to the Church, and tell me to ask for license, since you say my preaching is acceptable?" And he said, "never mind, the thing you are to do is to ask forgiveness; are you willing to do it?"

I said "no," and he said, "that is all." I didn't care to hear him preach nor to pay him, but, I did give to the Church.

About two months afterward, he read my name out, as no longer a member. But I kept the early six o'clock meetings, they were had at my house.

Later on, one of the Churches opened her doors, and we had a ten days meeting.

We had a very nice time, one morning, at the service I told the people that their sins were not forgiven when they were converted, this like to broke up the meeting, for it was something new to them and it was new to me, but it was showed to me and made plain. Then I explained to them, how they sinned after their conversion, and how they must keep the ten commandments before their sins were forgiven. And that the law was only our School-master, to bring us to Jesus, and Jesus was the one to forgive sin, for he destroys the cause that makes the act, then your sins are forgiven. But this is not what we have been taught, so it is hard to accept it.

But there were two or three believed it, so I turned with three others to the children. We got a place and called it the City Mission, on the sign board, was the following words: "Un denominational, Creed or Color, the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of man, and with one blood, God made all nations of the world. All are welcome."

The children were hunted up, that didn't go to any Sunday School, for we hadn't adopted the seventh day then. If they hadn't clothes the women would fix some for them, and if they hadn't shoes I would see that they got a pair, (for I had a shoe store then.) So we had a nice mixed Sunday School for seven years.

Some of the things we taught them, and impressed upon them, was the ten commandments, and more especially the second commandment, particularly the part that says: "Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me: and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

Now our children were mostly of those whose parents were dissipated, and the deceiving spirit has crept in every place.

He makes people believe that its useless to try to be anything if their parents wasn't anything, and by this many bright minds are kept from development. Everybody finds it hard to get up out of sin, but think of the one who has dissipated parents and they know of their badness.

The deceiving spirit tells them you can't help it, it is born in you. But this hasn't anything to do with it, because Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and we taught them that he would show mercy unto thousands of them that loved him and kept his commandments. We tried to impress upon them that it didn't make any difference what kind of parents the child had it could be as good as any body, if it would keep the commandments.

As a laborer I worked for a firm now known as the "Delaware Terra Cotta Brick Manufacturers Company" for forty years. Being a man

of quick temper and determined to conquer it, I fasted every Friday for twelve years, didn't eat or drink. I tried to keep the men from knowing it, but I couldn't and they tried to reason with me and have me eat.

They were churchmen but they didn't know what I had to conquer. I was greatly imposed upon by men. One day a man cursed and abused me before the men and shook his fist in my face. I wanted to fight him, but the law had bound these evil powers and I had to be humiliated before all the men. I went away to myself, shed a few tears and thanked the Lord for keeping me.

A few days afterward laying my hand on him and calling him by name, I asked him why he had abused me? he bowed his head in shame and said, "you didn't do anything to me it was nothing but the devil." I said, "I know it." Now this man was a terrible swearer, but never after this would he curse or swear in my presence and if it happened that he done it he would ask me to excuse him, and how glad I was to have those evil powers bound.

There was another man who worked with me and he was the most disagreeable man I ever knew, he would curse me and want to fight, but I wouldn't say anything to him, he was sickly. He worked with me seven years. He lived in

another State and he was going to leave and go home. He had an aunt living here, and he said to her. "I have worked with J. W. Raikes seven years and have done most everything to him, but never saw him mad, he is a Christian."

These things were hard to bear, I wanted to fight but the law had these powers bound, but it was a fight within to keep from fighting without but there came a time when all the fight within was gone, for Jesus had entered in and cast that spirit out, so fight and desire was gone.

Man, Know Thyself.

The object in writing this book is to bring before the reader, not something new, because Solomon says, "there is nothing new under the sun," and there is nothing new, but all things are in the mind of God and he gives them out to Man; therefore I want to bring to you some things that were hidden from the foundation of the world.

It has often been asked where Cain got his wife, since there was supposed to be but three people on the earth at that time: Adam, Eve and Cain. Cain had killed Abel and God had put on him a curse," and he went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden, and Cain knew his wife. (Gen. 4 chap. 16-17.

The 18th Chapter of Genesis reads thus: And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre, and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and lo, three men stood by him; and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent-door, and bowed himself toward the ground, and said, my Lord, if now I have found favor in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy

servant. Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves, under the tree, and I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts, after that you shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, so do, as thou hast said.

And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man, and he hastened to dress it.

And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree and they did eat.

And they said unto him, where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, behold in the tent.

And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door which was behind him.

Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, after I am waxed old, shall I have pleasure, my Lord being old also?

And the Lord said unto Abraham, wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

Is any thing too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed, I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall a son.

Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

And the men rose up from hence and looked toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them on the way. And the Lord said, shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

For I know him that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgment; That the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

And the Lord said, because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous.

I will go down, now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the Lord.

And Abraham drew near and said, wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

Peradventure there be fifty righteous in the city; wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked; and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?

And the Lord said, if I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the City, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. And Abraham answered and said, behold now I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes. Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; wilt thou destroy all the city for the lack of five? and he said, if I find there forty and five I will not destroy it.

And he spake unto him yet again, and said peradventure there shall be forty found there? And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. And he said unto him, Oh! let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there, and he said, I will not do it if I find thirty there. And he said, behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord. Peradventure there shall be twenty found there, and he said, I will not destroy it for

twenty's sake. And he said, Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Peradventure ten shall be found there, and he said I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham, and Abraham returned unto his place.

In Genesis 19th, 1st to 5th, we read the following :

Men and Angels—God's Messengers.

And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom. And Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face towards the ground. And he said, behold now my lords, turn in I pray, into your servant's house and tarry all night and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways; and they said, "Nay but we will abide in the street all night. And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house. And he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us that we may know them.

Our purpose in bringing before the reader, these two chapters, is that we may remember how God sent his messengers to men. They were celestial beings; they were angels and they were men.

Hebrew 13th. (1-2, v.) reads : Let brotherly love continue; be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unaware. Daniel 10th (5-6 v.) reads :

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked , behold a certain man clothed in linen whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphas. His body also was like beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightening, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. Then again in Revelation 1st, 9 v. we read : I, John who also am your brother and companion in tribulation and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ. Also Rev. 2, 1 v. reads : Unto the Angel of the Church of Ephesus write.

Note dear reader in the previous chapters, your attention was called to God's created beings in heaven, they were angels, while the created beings on earth were men. The 10th verse of the 19th chapter of Revelation reads :

And I fell at his feet to worship, him; and he said unto me, see that thou do it not. I am

thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus, worship God : for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Thus, you see, that God's created beings in heaven (which were angels) acknowledged Gods created beings on earth as brethren. The earthly brother wanted to worship the heavenly brother, and he said, I am thy brother, do it not.

Fallen Angels.

But some of the created brothers in heaven rebelled against God, and he and his angels were cast out to the earth and he went to the created man which was his brother.

The word man means both sexes, so he went to the weaker part of man, and by his deceiving spirit they disobeyed God. Thus, the devil had united the created beings on earth with the ones that were cast from heaven, and he becomes to be the prince of this world.

But before man disobeyed, God had told him to multiply; the devil knew if he could get his spirit in man, then he would have all with one evil spirit the same as those who were already on earth that had disobeyed God.

Birth of Cain and Abel.

Therefore he looked for the time when Adam and Eve should bear children, as this was his great hope for his future plans; in it, was all the deceivableness of unrighteousness.

Adam knew his wife. She conceived and bare Cain and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord; and she again bare his brother Abel; but when Abel was born she did not say she had gotten a man from the Lord.

Now God had respect for Abel's offering, but not for Cain's. And as God told Adam the day he disobeyed he should surely die.

Now these were both created beings, but the fallen created being caused the death of the earthly created being, so that he, the devil, might carry out the plans of the Spirit.

Here we have a similar case. Cain was the child of the devil, a deceiver. Abel was sincere, and God had respect for Abel. Now Abel was the only one on earth, that had respect for God. The devil knew he couldn't have this man worshipping God, for he was the God of this world. Thus the devil put in the heart of Cain to kill Abel, that he might get him out of the way then there would be no one on earth to call on God.

So Cain killed Abel and God put a curse on him; and Cain went from the presence of the Lord, in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden, and there he knew his wife among those rebellious created beings which were cast to the earth.

This was the accomplishment of his plans, for he had disposed of his good brother by the spirit, and the evil spirit in Cain made him kill Abel.

Now Cain was born in this world according to the way God said, but not with the spirit for he had the spirit of the devil.

To receive the spirit is one thing to have it born in you is quite different.

So when he accomplished his work of having one born with his spirit in him, he had accomplished a great work to multiply this earth (of which he was the prince) with his kind, that had the spirit of the devil born in them.

Cain was the only one, and he, the devil could and did send him into the land of Nod to those fallen angels that were cast out, that they might multiply, for they all would have the spirit born in them. This was a very important thing for the devil, for if his spirit had not have been born in man, man wouldn't have been deceived. Adam was not deceived, but the woman. But man, must have this deceiving spirit, so when Cain went among them and reared children, they all had this deceiving spirit.

The one who has been deceived and acknowledges it, for that one there is a chance, but to him that is deceived and doesn't believe it he is worse off.

Man don't think he is deceived, at once he will say, God said, man wasn't deceived; and so he did; and he was not then; but think of this deceiver and his well laid plans that man might not see himself.

God told woman, she was to be subject to her husband. But think of her dear reader, she is quick to forgive and quick to repent; how shall we account for this? She listened to the devil, she believed and received, but man, it was born in him. Therefore it is hard to let go that which is born in him. But, when man receives the truth it is harder to take it from him, than it is from the woman.

The 5th, 6th and 7th verses of 2nd Tim. 3rd chapter reads: Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof: from such turn away for of this sort are they which creep into houses and lead captive silly women, laden with sins, lead away with divers lust, ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of truth.

The devil knew if he could get the deceiving spirit born in him, he would have such a long struggle to come through before he could see that he was deceived.

The Deceivableness of Unrighteousness.

In the 14th chapter of Prov. 12th verse we find: There is a way which seemeth right unto man: but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Thus you see, it seemeth right, but is wrong. Now this is the deceivableness of unrighteousness which puts in man the cause that makes him act against God.

Note that I said, man would have a long struggle before he could see himself that he was deceived. First he must obey the commandments, this is hard; to love thy neighbor as thyself. Now man says you cannot keep the ten commandments, and he is trying to do away with some of them.

But dear reader, the deceiving spirit has made man disobey God, and his deceivableness is greater than the woman's for he is deceived and does not see it.

Now God would not tell us to love our neighbor as our ourselves if it could not be done, but the devil has a counterfeit for everything that God has for man.

The Counterfeit he has for love is fascination. We pick up the daily papers and read of some young man who has killed a woman because she refused to become his bride because he loved her. This is not love, this is that deceiving spirit which he has received, and he calls it love. Romans 13 chap. 10 v. says, Love worketh no ill to his neighbor, therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Let us see if we can love our neighbor as ourselves.

First, let us see if man loves himself. Since we are told that love worketh no ill to his neighbor let us see if we work ill to ourselves.

Now reader, if I want to say something about you to harm you, I have hurt myself first for it has'nt reached you yet. The deceivableness of unrighteousness has told me to do it. If I love myself I will not do it. Man must obey the holy ten commandments, for this is the foundation and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Thus he builds his christian structure. This stumbling stone and rock of offence which man stumbles at, is the word being disobedient, found in 1st. Peter 2 chap. 8 v. If man will build upon this foundation, then he will know what is meant in the 3rd chap. of Galatians 24-26 v. Wherefore the law was our school-master, to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith, but after that faith is come, we are no longer under a school-master.

For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. Now then we are up to where Jesus shows us who the Anti-Christ is, and how he has deceived those who have not built upon his Father's commandments. But to those who have obeyed, the law presents them to Jesus, and Jesus destroys the cause that made them act against God his Father.

And I am speaking what I know. I want to bring to your minds this great fact, that the office of the Anti-Christ is to oppose Jesus Christ.

It is true, if men will do his will they shall know of the doctrine. (John 7-17.) Do you know why they left off obeying the fourth commandment? The keeping of the seventh day as the Sabbath day? If so, well. If not, listen to what the Spirit of God says to you through the Spirit. (Bear in mind the Anti-Christ is to oppose Jesus Christ.) And he takes this way to effect the mission of Jesus, for he came to redeem man.

Man has already the deceivableness of unrighteousness in him. Now the devil turns to man and tells him as Jesus has come to redeem you, you are to honor him by keeping the day he rose from the tomb, for God has given all things over into his hands, and by keeping the first day of the week and call it Sunday, the Lord's Sabbath, you will be honoring both the Father and the Son. But this is that deceiving Spirit, for Jesus did not come to do away with the law but to fulfill it.

Hebrews 4th, 8v. reads: For if Jesus had given them rest then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. It would be well if you would read the whole chapter and see how Paul defends the Seventh Day Sabbath.

If woman is to be subject to man then let him be careful, for his deceivableness is greater than the woman's for she received it, and man has it born in him.

Sacrifice for Righteousness Sake.

It is very hard to sacrifice that which is a part of us, when it is in us. The person who has inward trouble hardly consents to an operation till the physician tells him there is no hope of life without it. So the devil knows for man to consent to the sword of the spirit to cut within, is a hard thing. Then again there are some people that have inward trouble, and they go to the doctor, he diagnoses the case, and he says, "you will never have any trouble," but the man says, "I want it out," while I may not have any serious trouble with it, yet it does'nt belong there and it must come out. This is the man seeing himself. But, see where he has to go before he is capable of leading woman. Then he has in him the truth, as woman has'nt, but man will present it to woman; but without this it will be as Paul says, of this sort are they, which creep into houses and lead captive silly women, laden with sin, lead away with divers lusts, ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Esau and Jacob.

While writing this book the great question of Esau and Jacob came in my mind and I fell upon my knees and prayed the Lord to make it plain to me. And I said I would give one tenth of all I had to the Lord. A day passed, and it was shown to me that Jacob offered the tenth of all he had in the way of atonement for taking his brother's blessing, for Esau had said he would kill him. Now Jacob wanted to return home but was afraid. This is why he offered one tenth of all he had. But this did not appease the wrath of Esau, nor did it keep him from killing Jacob, but Jacob prevailed with God. Money given is one of the things man thinks will help him with God, but it avails nothing. We must give money for the Gospel's sake, for the love we have for it, and sometimes it takes more than one tenth.

The Carnal ordinances made by man, are not the best things to follow. For instance; Ananias and Sapphira had possessions and promised a certain portion to the Lord, but did not give it. And Peter said to them, it was yours, why did you lie to the Spirit? So let us be careful how we give, and give freely, for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Now I will give you the great mystery of Esau and Jacob as God has revealed it to his servant. Beginning at the 21st verse of the

25th chapter of Genesis, we read, and Isaac entreated the Lord for his wife, because she was barren. And the Lord was entreated of him. And Rebekah his wife conceived and the children struggled together within her. And she said, if it be so why am I thus? And she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said unto her, two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels. And the one people shall be stronger than the other people, and the elder shall serve the younger.

Reader, I hope to carry your minds along to some facts. When God created Adam the first man, he disobeyed God, but the second man, the Lord from heaven, he obeyed in all things. When Eve bare Cain she said she had gotten a man from the Lord, but he was a child of the devil, and when Abel was born there was a child of God, and to keep the elder from serving the younger the elder killed the younger, which was Jesus. When Cain saw God had respect for Abel and not for him, he knew he would have to serve him, so he killed him. Thus the elder was determined he would not serve the younger in both cases, in the crucifying of Jesus and the killing of Abel

But the promise was to Abraham and his seed. Note how careful Abraham was to instruct his servant not to take to his son Isaac, a

wife from among the Canaanites, for they were not of the promise, but were of the created beings which were cast out of heaven. But he wanted one that was born under the promise for his son's wife.

So you see there were two nations and two manner of people then. When Isaac's wife conceived, then began the struggle in the womb. She asked the Lord about it and He told her there were two manner of people, and the one people should serve the other.

But do you see the same two nations struggling from righteous Abel to Jesus? Here we have the promise of Abraham, through his son Isaac beginning with a struggle. The same two manner of people, is in all people. But the one shall be stronger than the other.

Now let us remember who is the child of the promise and the seed of Abraham. They are those who do as he did; believe God and keep his Commandments: And this people will be stronger than the other people.

Note, dear reader, the first man, all the way down to where you bring it to yourself. Do you not see two people struggling in you? Do you not see a Jacob taking hold on Esau's heel in you? How often we find in us something holding the evil from controlling us. This is the same spirit in all men.

When Jesus came to redeem the first man, they killed him, for they would not have him to rule over them, as it was with Cain and Abel but after Cain killed Abel the struggle ceased, for there were none on earth but one people and none had the respect for God ; for Cain had gone from the presence of the Lord to those fallen Angels.

There he multiplied and built a city and called it after his first son whose name was Enoch. And, there were none calling on the Lord.

Gen. 4-25 v. reads : And Adam knew his wife again, and she bare a son and called his name Seth, for God said, she hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew. And to Seth there was born a son, and he called his name Enos. Then men began to call upon the name of the Lord. This is the first to have respect for God since Cain killed Abel. Then the next important one was Enoch who walked with God, then came Noah who also walked with God.

Through all the generations on down, God had his connecting link to Abraham and Isaac, to where the promise was to be fulfilled in Isaac and Rebekah.

The first man had killed the second man Abel and Jesus. When Cain killed Abel there

was but one people for he had gone among the disobedient angels, thus they multiplied the earth with one people and they were the first people.

After a hundred years God gave them Seth, and unto Seth was born Enos.

The first two verses of the 6th Chapter of Genesis says, And it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they choose.

Now the first man killed the second man, but now they have come together, for they were fair to look upon. Then they bare to them children, but these were not like the children born to Cain and the cast out beings from heaven; for, they have a different father, their father is a son of God, so you see how the first man and the second man and two manner of people came together.

But note, there isn't any promise yet. When these began to multiply, they became desperately wicked. Gen. 6th. 5th. v. reads: That every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually, and it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth.

But there was a time when he didn't have a man, now he has but he is defiled. But think of the wonderful patience of God with man; though man is far away, see what a long distance to bring him back; but we see the man coming through the promise; it looks dim, but he is coming.

Thus we see through Jacob and Rebekah, those same people that refused to let the second people rule them; but, the second people are holding on to the first people and stopping their progress. This is Jacob holding Esau's heel. The second man has gotten his hand on the first man, and he will conquer him, for God has said, the elder should serve the younger.

“And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled behold there were twins in her womb. And the first came out red all over like an hairy garment, and they called his name Esau. After that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel.”

Now reader, the first man has always triumphed over the second man, but though he comes into this world first, the second man has a hold on him and he keeps that hold on him, not only on his heel, but watch him and see how he brings him down.

“And the boys grew, and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field and Jacob

was a plain man dwelling in tents. And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison. But Rebekah loved Jacob, and Jacob sod pottage and Esau came from the field and was faint, and Esau said to Jacob, feed me I pray thee with that same red pottage for I am faint. Therefore was his name called Edom. And Jacob said, sell me this day thy birthright. And Esau said, behold I am at the point to die, what profit shall this birthright do to me? And Jacob said, swear to me this day, and he swore unto him, and sold his birthright unto Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils, and he did eat and drink and rose up and went his way; thus Esau despised his birthright.

Now, Jacob's getting Esau's birthright was a legal transaction, and this makes him heir of all that is to come to the firstborn. Therefore, when Isaac wanted to bless Esau his first born, Jacob only got what belonged to him; the second man took hold on the first man and the first man was to serve him. This is what the first man refused to do. Thus we see this was carried out with Cain and Abel and it was intended by Esau, but Jacob got a hold on him, for the promise was that the elder should serve the younger.

Now Adam was not deceived but he did what Eve told him and she had received her instructions from his fallen brother. But they did

not know to what depths they had fallen, for in it was the killing of their son by their son. Esau was not deceived, but to what depth it meant to sell his birthright he had not seen, for in so doing he would have to serve his brother Jacob.

In Eve's instructions to Adam, lay all the plans to multiply the world with sin; and in the instructions of Rebekah to Jacob lay all the plans to multiply the world with righteousness.

Now you remember after Cain killed Abel, there was but one people and that was the first people, and the second people took wives among the first people and bore to them children. See how God is bringing the first man back by the second man. Think of righteous Abel how he represents the second man. Though the first man killed him, he is still my brother and I will go after him. See the spirit, of righteous Abel coming after the wicked spirit of Cain, though he has killed the body.

But Jesus says, the flesh profiteth nothing; it is the spirit that quickeneth. So the righteous spirit of Abel takes on another body; then his spirit is in his body that is controlled by the devil. As the spirit of the devil got in man's body and made him do his biddings, so the spirit of righteous Abel gets into those first people which had the spirit of the devil born in them.

Now we see the sons of God going after their fallen brothers and how they humble themselves to reach them and get hold of them. They humbled themselves and went among those first people which were the disobedient ones, that were cast out of heaven and their seed, and took to themselves wives. Thus the first man and the second man come together, and two manners of people. Now the second man has him bringing him back, they are on their way back to earth, but they are struggling, Jacob has his hand holding him. This is Esau and Jacob by the wonderful wisdom of God, for the salvation of man. By having the voice of the spirit we are able to follow the teachings of God, that we may discern between the two spirits.

Now the deceiving spirit makes man hear by feeling, and he acts, and he is confident because he feels, but we must be very careful how we hear. If we do right, we will feel right, but this is accompanied with knowledge.

And when Isaac said, the voice is Jacob's, but the hands are Esau's then and there feeling had done its work to the sorrow of the old man. And so it will be to many who hear and know it is the voice of God, but will trust in feeling. Oh ! Man ; Know Thyself and take heed how you hear.

Luke 8th, 18 verse, reads : Take heed therefore how ye hear; for whosoever hath, to

him shall be given, and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

One night I closed up the store and pulled the door to; when about a half block away, there came a voice speaking to the inner man, telling me my store door was open and I had better go back and fasten it, for some one would get in and steal. I stopped; something said, "don't do it." But the voice said, "you know that door is hard to fasten." I think I stopped two or three times; at last I said, "I don't care, I won't go back." Then it said, if you want to enjoy yourself where you are going, you had better go back, then it will be off your mind, but I would not go back. I was gone about three hours, and when I returned, I found my store door fastened. Now I mention this to show you what the scriptures mean when it says, "take heed how ye hear. This is a temptation but man will not see it as such, until the law has been his schoolmaster to bring him to Jesus, then he is under the law of the spirit.

Paul says, Ephesians 6-12, For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Now this is quite different from what Paul says in Romans 7th, 22, 23 verses : “ For I delight in the law of God after the inward man, but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. ”

The law of sin is the law we must break. A man breaks the law of God to serve the law of sin, so he must break the law of sin to serve the law of God. Thus Paul says, We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places. He had to break the law of sin, and he had been obedient to the law of God, and this had brought him to the law of the spirit.

The law of sin in our members was to keep us from obeying the law of God, for the devil knew if man came to know the law of God he would be his servant. Now laws are made for the betterment of man's condition, and when man knows the law, he will be obedient to it for he wants his condition bettered.

When Paul speaks of spiritual wickedness in high places, he knows he is fighting in the spiritual law, and it is up high, and man will have to reach high to get it. The devil knows if man gets the law of the spirit then he is done,

for the second verse of the 8th chapter of Romans reads, for the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death ; to get this, you will have to fight in the spiritual law as you did in the natural law.

You will have to break the sinful spiritual law. What is the sinful spiritual law? The sinful spiritual law is evil imaginations.

2nd. Cor. 10-5 reads thus : Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. You will have to fight for it, as you did in the other laws.

The devil will make you think many things, and he will bring many things to your mind ; you will think they are right, but they will be wrong.

When man admits he has been deceived it is better for him ; but the devil wants to keep this from him.

The law of sin makes the body act, and when it fails to act voluntarily then it will attack you in the night when you are asleep for satan is determined to control the body, for it is his. He will have you do all kind of things in the body, when you are asleep. You will look at things you would not if you were awake, and you will enjoy a great many of the things the spirit

brings to you, that you would not enjoy were you awake. How shall we account for this? Why reader, you want to do it. It is in the spirit. The natural law forbids you, you want to be obedient and you are obedient to the natural law. Now it is the spiritual law that puts the natural law in force, and when one refuses to obey the things of the natural law, then the spiritual law, which gives the natural law its forces, takes the man in hand and forces him. The spiritual law takes him, and makes him enjoy or distresses him, just as the law of sin does to man when he is awake.

But, there is relief even from him taking advantage of us ; for the spirit of the Son of God comes to our relief, and He shows us if we will fight in the day and not enjoy and think about the things he brings to us in the night, He will protect us when we are asleep. But if you enjoy them, this shows that you like this law. If you will break this law the same as you did the other, then the spiritual law of Christ will protect you in the spiritual law while you sleep the same as when you were protected from the natural law awake, for this destroys the cause that makes the act.

Romans 8-28 says : And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

God's Dealing With Man.

God's way of dealing with man is past finding out, and his love for man is never fully known until he has accomplished his work in him. If He would let you know, you would refuse, and as Jesus said to his disciples, what I do thou knowest not now; but thou shall know hereafter. (John 13-7.) When he has worked out a problem in you, then he gives it to you, for it is yours. Oh : how glad you are for it, but how you refused it ; but he kept right on.

You will say, after I get the victory over this, I shall not ask the Lord any more, what He will have me do: but as soon as he has worked out his plan in you, and gives it to you, then you are so glad you will find yourself saying, "Lord what will thou have me to do?" then he shows you, and Oh how sorry you are for it is harder than the one you've just come through. But, you say, I must be obedient. So you pray and fight until you have overcome then he gives it to you and you are glad.

Now reader, man has in him from the beginning to the end evil passions that must be worked out, for we are told in the scriptures to work out our soul's salvation with fear and trembling before God, for it is God that worketh in you." Now I could tell you of all my trials and temptations one by one from my conversion until now, and tell how I yielded and how I conquered.

All things are lawful, but all things are not expedient, and false modesty is not prepared for it. He who has been lifted out of them sees beauty even in them all, for it is the work of God bringing his precious jewels out of the mire and filth and dirt, and making them shine out his great glory to his praise.

My Personal Experiences.

I am now going to tell you about some of the wonderful things of God.

Before I was converted, I was always religiously inclined. The devil made me believe if I ever got sick, it would not take me long to get converted because I was not very bad. After I was converted a little over a year, one night I became very sick. I was at my boarding house. I did not think I could live until morning. Something said "Call" I said "No." Then something said "pray" I said I do not feel like praying, but I know everything is alright with me: then all my sickness was gone and I was well. The pains were bad, but he had put the joy and confidence in me for himself.

Another time I was sick and had been to the doctor and received medicine, and something said, "You are a man who believes in God, why not ask him to cure you?" I went up stairs and asked God to cure me, and I came down a well man.

About three years after the death of my wife, I nearly died on my feet, for I was going about and the doctor was attending me. One day I went to his office and he said, "get home, lie down and be quiet, your temperature is one hundred and four. I will come down to see you." I did not have far to go. I laid down and he came. The next day I was out, I went to his office and he advised me to marry. I had no mind for that, so he did not seem to do me any good.

I went to another physician. He examined me and asked me if I had been to any doctor. I said "yes." He asked me if he told me what my ailment was, I said "no." Then he told me what my trouble was and said, you should not have been sick more than three days. He said, I am going to give you three Capsules, go home get in bed and take one, an hour afterward you will be sick enough to die, but you will not die. The next day take another but it will not be so bad, and the following day come to my office. When I went he asked me how I felt, I said "alright, only a little weak." He said, "Raikes, a man built like you ought to live a hundred years, if somebody didn't shoot him, and you are discreet in your habits too." But, he said, "if you want health you must get married," I said, "No." He replied, "I know man, I have studied him," and he gave me a very fine lecture on man. He knew me and he was earnest in what he said, and I believe he was

right. But I did none of the things he advised, because I didn't think it was right for me to do them. And I never have done any of them and I never will. That has been about eleven years ago. Now as I have said man has in him from the beginning to the end the sin he received in the beginning; but it is brought out when Jesus destroys the cause that made the act. But man don't know. Jesus says, "what I do thou knoweth not now, but thou shall know hereafter." These words were not for the twelve only, but to his disciples of to-day also.

After I had this great temptation, (for it was one) and health was a nice thing to have, I have never been sick since. Then it was given to me to understand, that when man disobeyed God, then all of God's creation changed. All nature changed against man to his destruction. Man don't believe he has been deceived, therefore man takes his intellectual knowledge, makes his scientific researches and they bring the answer according to his knowledge from a scientific standpoint. But, when it comes to the man spoken of in Romans 8, 4 verse "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh but after the spirit, his intellectual knowledge from a scientific standpoint when put on that man, won't work. So when this was made plain to me how thankful I was.

I will now tell you some things I refused to write, but one must be obedient and not mind what people will think or say, when you are depending on God for what you are to write.

One day while writing this book, I saw a man go by ; I called to him and we talked about different things. When he went I started to write but I could not, all my thoughts were gone and I could not tell why. Then it was made plain to me how I had turned away the voice of the spirit to talk to man, and that I would not have treated a man with such contempt as to stop talking to him to converse with another without even asking to be excused. When this was made plain, I saw myself and how sorry I was. I got upon my knees and asked forgiveness and promised never to do it again.

So I must be true to the voice that opens out and gives to me his golden treasures. Now I will tell of the things I thought to hold back.

Three years after the death of my wife I had all kinds of trials. The day she died she said to me, "John you will have it hard, but stand up and be a man." I have stood up and have not yielded to the evil powers for I said I would die before I would yield. So when one is determined to be true to God, the devil will put his forces against you in many ways, and by people you wouldn't think, and sometimes they do not think they are working for him.

After the death of my wife I would come home from work, remain there reading my Bible. People tried to get me to keep company but I would not. I'd go to church but would not go home with any ladies nor call on any, though often asked.

There was a married woman that use to come to the house when my wife lived, who tried to get me to go in company and named over some nice women, but I paid no attention to what she said more than to listen, but I believe she was trying to do what she thought was best for me. She may have thought I worried about my wife, but I didn't. The very morning, or rather day, my wife died the room was full of people and she said something to me; it pleased me. I laughed, and so did she. Then the word went out that John Raikes laughed at his wife's dying.

Now they did not know, for she had grown so weak she could not speak, and the people had left the room. Some went down stairs and some in other rooms. She tried to say something, I put my ear to her mouth to catch the words, and she said, "ask the Lord to strengthen my speech, I want to say something. Upon my knees I asked the Lord to return her speech and he did. She talked so that the people down stairs heard her plainly and came up to see what had happened to her.

She was telling me something, they all heard, but it was with their natural ears, so did I, but I heard with my spiritual ears too, this made me laugh and so did she, but the people did not understand and said I laughed at her dying.

Now the people were interested in me and said, " Brother Raikes, why don't you ask the Lord for a wife? I said I have given myself up to the Lord and it wouldn't be right for me to ask Him for a wife when I have given myself to him and I know he will give me that which is best for me, and if he wants me to have a wife and shows me the one, I will be glad, but if he does not I never will have one, but I will be true.

Now the devil was determined I should not carry these things out so I had to go through all kinds of trials, but I have been true. What he has committed to me to keep I have kept it, though it has been hard to do so.

One day coming home from work, I was thinking of the different women who had tried to conquer me, and how nice looking some of them were, and I was chastised for thinking about those things, and Oh! how it hurt me. I said, " here I am, I have no wife and I wont go after women ; there are men that have wives and go after other women besides, and I am chastised for thinking about them, and before I could control myself tears were falling down my face, but

I came to think it was for my good, for the scripture tells us, whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth. The 11th verse of the 12th chapter of Hebrews reads : Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous but grievous : nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Now this was one of the best or in other words it was the best experience I ever had, when I got down to reasoning with the Lord, I could see it was best for me. Then I began to fight my thoughts, for it will make one fight to overcome them, but I did. One day several months after it came to me, where are your thoughts of women? I said, that is so. Then I began to worry about my condition, but it was brought to me; you are just the same man as ever but the lust has been destroyed, and Oh ! how happy I was, for I had asked the Lord if there wasn't some way I could get through this world without these terrible fights, if so I would like to have it, if not I would fight all my days but I would never yield.

You remember I said we have in us from the beginning to the end, but it has to be worked out. When the Lord works out a problem in you he gives it to you, for it is yours and you are glad you followed his teachings.

About a year after this experience I was going to work one morning late in the fall, about six o'clock going across a field a voice asked me if I was willing to forsake women the balance of my days. I said, "yes Lord, anything to the glory of God." And the blessing came down on me so powerfully I couldn't control myself. Then He began showing me the great mystery of multiplying the earth, for he had told man to multiply, but now the earth was being multiplied with those that were born in sin.

But if one will follow him along he will bring him up to where he will ask him if he is willing to forsake women the balance of his days. Now this is not a demand, but is just as if some one would say to you, are you willing to do a certain thing? You would say, yes, if it will do you any good. And you do it.

One would think it would be a hard thing to forsake women the balance of their days, but it isn't, for see where he has brought you: to where the lust has been cast out, for the spiritual law has destroyed the cause that made you act. In 2nd Peter 1st, 4 v. we read: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. So you have come through the corruption which is temptations and the lust that is in you. For it is hard

when the corruption presents itself to you, and the lust that is in you wants it, but when you pass through them then you are partakers of the divine nature.

The True and a False God.

In the 3rd verse of the 17th chapter of John we read: And this is life eternal that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." These words of Jesus to his disciples implies that there is danger of man following a God but not the true God. A Christ but not the true Christ. The only way man can know the true God is by keeping the commandments, thus he becomes to know God. For what power can stop you from doing the thing in the flesh but the true God. But the false God has his kingdom set up in man, and he makes all the things in man turn against the instructions that God gives to man through his commandments. For he has got to receive them before the evil powers can be bound, thus you see how the false God has man, but as Jesus says, if man will do his will, he will know of the doctrine. Now, reader, let us settle it within ourselves, that if we do not keep the commandments we cannot know the doctrine for this is what presents us to Jesus, and if you haven't this, then you have accepted the false God, and he presents you to the false Christ, which is the Anti-Christ, and the Anti-Christ works within you, and

should you want to get away you would have a very hard time, for it is the spirit that quickeneth.

Do you know why so many people, and even preachers reflect on the old patriarchs and the things they did? It is because they haven't built on the commandments. They criticise Abraham for getting his wife's maid with child when God has said, he was the Father of the Faithful.

Now reader this was the beginning of the Christian era, and where there is no law there is no transgression.

There was no law against it then, if there had been Abraham would not have done it, for he was a faithful man and was honored as such by God. I think when I hear them speak of the dear patriarchs, what a shame it is, and I feel like defending them.

I heard a preacher say in his sermon, "Do not be like Moses, just as you are about to enter into rest, do some sin and be kept out, like Moses was kept from going to the promised land." O, how it grieved me: when God said Moses was faithful in all his house. Now reader, this is because they failed to keep the commandments and do not know the true God, and this is the teaching of the false God. Jesus says, ye do greatly err in not knowing the scriptures.

Now Moses came to represent the law, and the 3rd v. of the 8th chapter of Romans says, for what the law could not do, in that it was weak, through the flesh, God sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin condemned sin in the flesh." So, if Moses had not had some weakness, how could he have represented the law? Moses acted his part like a man of God upon the great stage of life, and upon this stage every man has his part to play. If they will be as faithful as Abraham and Moses and those old patriarchs in playing their part, that God may come and take them to himself as he did those faithful ones.

Now I call your attention to John 17-3. "That they may know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

Mark 9-2, we read, "Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves : and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining exceeding white as snow, so that no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses ; and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here ; and let us make three tabernacles ; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say : for they were sore afraid. And there was a cloud that

overshadowed them : and a voice came out of the cloud saying, 'This is my beloved Son, hear him. '

Jesus says in John 18-8, " I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me : and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and have believed that thou did'st send me.

Now Jesus took the three upon the mountain that they might meet and hear the ones, that he had been instructing them about, the King of the law and the King of the prophecy. These they had received and Jesus had told the Father so. Now God said, this is my beloved Son, hear him. Note how these men had to come along to know God, for he had them to recognize the law and the prophets, then to call their attention to his son telling them to hear him. Romans 3-20 reads : 'Therefore by the deeds of the law, there shall no flesh be justified in his sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets.

The law and the prophets are looking and seeing the righteousness of God going on. Is it going on in you, or have you the anti-Christ righteousness which is without obeying the ten commandments? If you are struggling in the commandments, well, for then you believe; but those who do not believe cannot keep them, because they obey the anti-Christ commandments.

Is the Bible the Word of God.

Do you know why most people call the Bible the word of God?

Since we read in the 1st verse of the 1st Chapter of John. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. In the 14th verse of the same chapter we find: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. In the 6th Chapter 63rd verse Jesus says it is the spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing, the word that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life.

Nowhere in the bible do we find where it is called the Word of God, but it is called the Scripture. Jesus says, search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, he does not say, search the word of God, but he does say, my word is spirit and my word is life. The bible is commonly called the word of God, but it is paper and ink, the same is formed in different shapes, which gives to us the intellectual knowledge we have received from wisdom, but if we will read the scriptures and believe and do the things that we read in them then we will know the word of God.

In Ps. 51-10, David says, Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. This will give life, for this is to the spiritual body, what the natural food is to the

natural body ; the natural food keeps the body active in the things of this world, so the word of God will keep your spiritual body active for the world to come. In man you see life, this is the life that is spoken of in the scriptures ; the spirit quickeneth and makes the mortal body be subject to the spiritual body. And if Christ be in you the body is dead because of sin, but the spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his spirit that dwelleth in you. Rom. 8-10

Now reader, man calls the bible the word of God, is it because he lacks intellectual knowledge? No, I was talking to a man who had been through two colleges about the bible not being the word of God, and he said "Raikes, will you contradict the learned?" I said, "I will in that for I know." We talked on and he said, "you are talking psychology." "No, I do not know anything about psychology," he replied, "you do." Well, I said, if this is psychology then you do not know it. He said, "this is what we learn when we first enter college." I said, you learn that you may know, but you do not know, it yet. So the scriptures teach us that we may know the word of God ; and we may know the scriptures and never know the word of God because we fail to keep the commandments.

In the 6th chapter of Hebrews beginning at the 3rd verse. And this will we do, if God permit. For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again into repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. In the 18 verse of the same chapter we read, that by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, I call your attention to where it is impossible for God to lie, yet if man lies he will punish him. This seems hard for God to punish man for lying, when it is impossible for him to lie.

Unrighteous criticism on the bible makes man disbelieve it, and how careful we ought to be, to defend it, and he who has purchased our pardon. If we do not do it, who will? for man is to represent him here, and we are our brother's keeper.

We read the scriptures, and we have his word in us, so we must defend our God, for he defends us. His exalted knowledge in righteousness and goodness forbids it and he cannot lie. Now if man has been a partaker of the Holy Ghost and has tasted the good word of God, and the power of the world to come, it would be a

very hard thing for him to fall away, for see where he has been brought from ; for he has in him the knowledge of sin and righteousness that has cleansed him from sin, and this has destroyed the cause that made him act ; so you see it would be impossible to renew him, for he has crucified the Son of God afresh and put him to an open shame.

Now what is meant by putting him to an open shame? The man who has followed the teachings of Jesus, the same is known of him, and the people will believe in him, though they may tell you they do not ; but, when that man falls away, the people see it, they will say at once "if that man is going back, it is useless for me to try, for I know that man ; if ever there was a christian he was." So he has put Jesus to an open shame and has crucified him afresh.

I have often been asked why I did not go around more, and see what was going on in the world, but the Divine call leads me in a different way from that. The desire of my life is to have a knowledge of the truth, and to get it, I must spend a great part of my life alone, for then I receive more spiritual truths. In so doing I learn to control my mind ; for he who has his mind on God, God developes and shows wonderful things.

I will now write some more things I did not intend to write, because I didn't think the

natural mind was prepared for them. But how is the natural mind to be enlightened, if the spiritual mind does not convey it to the natural ?

In spite of all your knowledge that you are in the law of the spirit and the spirit shows you that you are to tell some of the things which he has done for you, you will find yourself holding back, because you think no one will seem to believe it ; so he tries to keep you from telling some of the things of the spirit. So, if he can keep you from receiving spiritual instruction the devil knows you will not know about the spiritual deceivableness. So there is a great spiritual battle fought before it reaches man. The devil is the prince of this world ; he knows it is bad enough for man to understand the natural law, though man is his subject yet he cannot control him, because he is not subject to his law, but he is obedient to the law of God even in his country, for he is looking for another country whose builder and maker is God ; for he has declared by this, that this is not his home as reads the 10th verse of 10th chapter of Hebrews : " He looked for a city which had foundations, whose builder and maker is God ;" also the 16th verse of the same chapter, " But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly ; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God ; for he has prepared for them a city."

But this is a spiritual country and the subjects in the spiritual country are looking for their brethren who are in a strange land to enlighten them, and teach them the things of their country, which their brother is looking for.

There is a great battle to be fought for the prince of the power of the air, will try to stop the messenger from coming to this country to bring messages to those in his country against his country ; but this is what he did, for he came to bring to man things against God.

If we could see the great spiritual fight that is going on for the deliverance of man, the ones who you were interested in and how they are for you. Note how interested they were in Daniel, to bring him messages and instruct him of things that were to come to pass. Now God wants to instruct man to tell to his brother about the devils deceiving spirit and how he has been deceived, and this can only be brought about by the spirit, and there will be a struggle in this as in all the rest, but it will be proclaimed ; though it has been hindered on the way, man has it.

Daniel 10-10, reads : And behold a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. And he said unto me O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright, for unto thee am I sent. And when he

had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. Then said he unto me, Fear not Daniel for from the first day that thou did'st set thy heart to understand and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days ; but lo Michael one of the chief princes came to help me, and I remained there with the Kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days ; for yet the vision is for many days. And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground and I became dumb. And behold one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips, then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me and I have retained no strength. For how can the servant of this my Lord talk with this my Lord? for as for me straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me. Then there came again and touched me, one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, and said, O man greatly beloved, fear not, peace be unto thee ; be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my Lord speak, for thou hast strengthened me. Then said he, knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I re-

turn to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. But I will show thee that which is noted in the Scripture of truth; and there is none that holdeth with me in these things but Michael your prince.

There was in my store a nice Christian young woman. I came home one day and inquired of her health. She said she was well. She then asked me what day it was, I told her and said, "don't you know what day it is?" she said "no, I do not seem to know anything, what is the matter with me, am I losing my mind?" I replied, "I guess not, why?" She replied, "I don't remember anything." I said, "do you know where you are?" She said, "yes." "Do you know where you live?" "I think so." I said "where?" She said, "on the other side of town." I saw she was bad off; her mind was blank. I hastened after a lady to come and take her home, when she came she knew her and said, "what are you doing here?" Then I said, "you may go home with her." She replied, "not now." "Do you know this is the night you are to sing a solo?" "Who?" "You." "Where?" I told her. "I do not know anything about singing a solo." Then I said, "You go home and get ready, and I'll be out to hear you sing." It was about six o'clock while eating my supper, a voice said, "pray for her." I ceased eating, got upon my knees and asked the Lord to restore

her mind. When her mind began to come to her she said, "Mr. Raikes is praying for me." I got ready to go to the concert and when I got on the car, there she was on her way to the concert to sing her solo. Now notice, the Spirit told me to pray for her, and when her mind began to return the Spirit told her, I was praying.

Romans 8-9 reads Ye are not in the flesh but in the spirit, that is, you are not controlled by the law that controls the flesh, but the spirit conveys it to you. Rom. 3-3 v. says For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Is it any wonder that those who have not obeyed the natural law, dispute the things that are told about the spiritual law? About a year afterward, this same young woman died. I had a Mission she was one who had received the teachings more than the rest, and I missed her. One Sunday morning I was thinking about what a preacher said to me. His words were, "what you are teaching is alright, but when you are gone that will be all of it." I said, "No," I have one if I was gone I know would live and would teach them," I became somewhat disheartened, for I hadn't but six people and part of them would be asleep, and I found it hard. I thought of what the preacher had said, that I was laboring in vain and there would be no one to take it up.

This was Sunday morning, and I was wide awake, the young woman's voice spoke to me and said, "Mr. Raikes there is one that has received your teachings and gone," this was inspiration to me. About three months after, I was studying what I was going to talk about, spiritual wisdom and spiritual understanding; when I had received spiritual understanding, she spoke to me again, saying, "Mr. Raikes don't you know how I came to your store one night and you told me I was of the spirit of the devil. You rebuked me, you didn't do like Adam. God created Adam and took away from him and made woman, so I have taken from you, and now I am a spiritual woman. This was great inspiration from me. This young woman was converted to God, and not to the Anti-Christ, so she was peculiar in some of her ways so the people thought the same about me. She would come to my store to talk, and I was glad to have her come, for there was no one I could talk to like I could to her. And I told her there was no one I liked as well as her, but she took my meaning the wrong way. She was not working for me then, I never went home with her. Sometimes we would talk until eleven o'clock, but the store would be open and she would go home alone. I would close the store and go home. She in one direction, I in the other. This kind of treatment she didn't understand, so she said, "Mr. Raikes you said you liked me

better than any one else I said, "I do." Then she told me of my treatment to her. I said, "what do you want to do, drag me down, you are of the spirit of the devil." This is what she brought to my remembrance when she told me, she had taken from me and was now a spiritual woman.

Seven years before her death she worked for me, and I never saw a forward act out of her in my life. O, what a blessing it was to her and me. She often spoke of it. She followed the teachings and she obeyed the natural law, and this presented her to Jesus, and the spiritual law destroyed the cause that made her act; thus, she was a model Christian young woman.

2nd Thes. 2nd chapter, 7th verse reads: that the mystery of iniquity doth already work. Think what it is to have a mystery to work out. Now this is what man has to do, or rather he puts himself in the will of the Lord, that he may work it out for him, and the more man becomes to know the spiritual law, the more he will know of the mystery of iniquity. In the spirit of the Anti-Christ is all the mystery, and Jesus Christ has all the knowledge to give man, that he may know the mysteries of the Anti-Christ. We are told that the dead know not anything, but who are the dead? for we are also told, "that he that liveth and believe in me shall never die." Again Jesus says, "My word is spirit, and my word is life."

Now the one who has received his word, has received life, and there is some activity in him. Jesus also says, "though he were dead yet shall he live," and he that liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

This does not mean the natural belief, but, that the spiritual belief has life in it; the natural belief is weak like the law that made it. For by the deeds of the law, there shall no flesh be saved in his sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. The law is weak through the flesh, though the law stops the act, the flesh wants to break it, therefore by the deeds of the law, there shall no flesh be justified in his sight.

Now the spiritual law takes hold of the things of the natural law, binds and casts them out; thus the man is saved by the spiritual law.

Now if the dead know nothing it is because they have refused to believe and obey the natural law, which presents them to Jesus that they might be saved, for he plainly says, though they were dead, yet shall they live; and those that live and believe shall never die; these are they whom the natural law presents to Jesus for the spiritual law, which destroys the cause that made them act, and gives them eternal life.

Now, if some have eternal life here on earth, and some have eternal life and have gone from earth, it is the same in both; why shouldn't they communicate as they used to do as men, but now by the spirit ?

In the 26th verse of Romans 8th chapter it reads: "likewise the spirit also helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for as we ought" A voice spoke to me and said, "you do all the things that the spiritual people do but one." I wondered what that one was. Then I told the Lord, whatsoever it was I would do it. So it was shown to me that it was keeping the Seventh Day Sabbath. So you see the spirit helped my infirmities in that case, and has done it in many cases.

It was spoken to me that there wasn't a man on earth who had gone through greater trials than I had, not to be effected bodily. I didn't understand that, for I said, I haven't many trials these days: then I said, I guess it means something I will have to go through but I have had it nice to what the Apostles had it. After a few days it was shown to me, that it was the taking of the spiritual life from me and making a spiritual woman. Now the Spirit helped my infirmities, as I would not have known these things.

There is no telling what the Lord will do, if we are willing to become fools for Christ's sake. My prayer is, that those who read this book may even see some of the precious gems on its pages that I have seen while writing it.

In writing this book I asked the Lord what I should write. He showed me always the commencement, and this is what the Lord showed me.

The people are very wicked and the world is in greater darkness since the world. This is no small subject to write on, since it is proclaimed that the world is getting better, and the light of the gospel is shining so bright. The wickedness before the flood was terrible, and God repented that he had made man, and he said he would destroy him off of the face of the earth, and he destroyed man in the flood. Then the Lord went to Sodom, and saw that their wickedness was great and he destroyed Sodom. But now we have it that the people are very wicked, and the world is in greater darkness since the world.

The spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils (1st Timothy, 4th chapter 1-2.) 2nd. Tim. 3-5 says, Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, from such turn away.

Note, dear reader some of the forms of godliness which are set forth ; they tell about the many Churches and Home, Foreign Missions and Charitable Institutions and the great amount of money given for the Gospels' sake (so they say) but this is not so, it is for the form. These are some of the things set forth as proofs that the world is growing better, in spite of the sayings of the scriptures. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. (2nd Tim. 3-13.) Now, isn't this worth your best thought, for man is defying

God, and says it is not so. Isn't this wickedness greater than the wickedness before the flood, or the wickedness of Sodom? They are deceived and being deceived ; this is a great part of our christian instructors and this is greater darkness since the world.

The darkness before the flood and before the destruction of Sodom, was nothing in comparison with this darkness. Matt. 11-24, says But I say unto you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for thee. The 2nd verse of the 60th chapter of Isaiah reads, for, behold the darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the people. Also, the 15th verse of the 29th chapter of the same book. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? And who knoweth us?

This is the condition of the world to-day. What makes the darkness greater, is because this is the gospel dispensation, Jesus has come with the light and man has refused the true light, and has accepted the false light which the anti-christ presents to him. This is great wickedness.

One would ask, why is this? It is because man was deceived but doesn't believe it. He disputes God, but doesn't believe he is doing so. "There's a way that seemeth right unto man, but the way thereof leadeth unto death." Now,

the reason for this: Man has refused to keep the commandments, and when we fail to do this, we are building on the commandments of the false God. As Jesus says, "this is life eternal that they may know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

So you see, there is danger of knowing a God, but not the true God, a Christ, but not Jesus Christ. There is but one way for man to know God, that is by loving his neighbor as himself; man says, this cannot be done; the deceiving spirit has done his work for it has made him look away from himself.

Let us see if man loves himself. Now if I want to do you some harm and cause some one to dislike you, or stop your progress, I have hurt myself and if I loved myself I wouldn't do it.

But man fails to obey God. Notice how careful Jesus was to impress this upon his disciples. It was for us that the disciples received the true God; but if we do not love ourselves, we are under the false God, and he presents us to the false Christ, thus you see this great wickedness and great darkness.

In Isaiah we read, and judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off, for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

Yea, truth faileth and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey, and the Lord saw it, and it displeased him, but there was no judgment. Oh, that the day may come when all those who claim they love Jesus, may love themselves, and that all creeds will be forgotten and all will work together under the banner of universal love.

In the tenth Chapter of St. John 4 verse we read as follows: And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice; and a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of a stranger.

But how are we to know His voice? 1st, We must be begotten of God. "We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not: but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself and that wicked one toucheth him not. (1st John 5-18.)" When man obeys the commandments he has been begotten of God, and the wicked one toucheth him not. O what a hard struggle man will have even after he has received the instructions of God, and they have bound the evil powers. Now this is when he keepth himself, and that the wicked one can't make him yield to the evil passions.

Thus the man is begotten, and he is on his way to learn the voice of God, for we know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not, thus the

man is begotten and born. To be born is to receive the spirit of Jesus, and this makes him a new man for the instructions of God has begotten him and the law presents him to Jesus, and the spirit which had him bound and was not allowed to act only in the man, thus the spirit torments him because he is not given liberty; the law bound them and Jesus cast him out of the man, as God did the devil out of heaven, and Jesus rules man by his spirit. Jesus says: "My sheep know my voice and follow me." But, we are to learn his loving voice, for there are many voices calling to us and we know not his voice distinctly but he teaches us how to know it, in ways we will understand.

I told you how I was asked if I was willing to forsake women the balance of my days. At once I said, "Yes Lord anything to glorify God." I knew his voice because I had already forsaken them, but I thought there might be a time when I would be told to take a wife.

This was not hard for me to understand, for I had this in me. When the voice spoke to me and said, "you do all the things that the spiritual people do, but one," then it was shown to me that it wasn't a voice like the others but the voice of the spirit and I answered to it the same as the others, because these were in me; but when I was told one had received my teaching and was gone, it was by a voice I knew.

When I was told I had gone through greater trials than any man on earth, not to have the body effect I did not know the voice nor did I know what was meant, but it was made plain to me through a spiritual voice. All these different ways are to learn us to know His voice.

If a thing is already done in you, you will say "yes" to that that has been done, and to that which is not in you, he brings it to you by a voice you know, now this is all done that we may learn to know his voice.

In speaking to us by a voice we know, makes us learn to know the spiritual voice, for the natural voice tells us of spiritual things. The natural voice tells us of spiritual things, just the same as the natural law presents us to Jesus that we become to know the spiritual law, so the natural voice presents us to the spiritual voice.

It is very important that we know His voice, for His kingdom is a spiritual kingdom and we are His subjects; we are in a strange country and we are here to show that our country is greater than the one we are in: also, how he takes better care of His subjects, and His wisdom and power is greater than that of this world. Thus we must learn our King's voice, so we can do His will in this country and convey His messages to the subjects of this country against their country. So man must know the spiritual language.

Think of Peter in the 3rd verse of Acts 5th chapter. But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

Where did Peter get his knowledge? It was conveyed to him by the spirit. Also in Acts 3rd chapter we read, And a certain man lame from his mother's womb, was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked an alms. And Peter fastening his eyes upon him, with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them expecting to receive something of them.

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I unto thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

Now this was told him by the Spirit, and, think of the many wonderful things that were done by the Apostles; it was because they were representatives of a spiritual kingdom and these dear apostles were showing their King's power in another country among their subjects, that they might learn to believe in their King and like his ruling, and also become one of His subjects obeying, the laws of their King, and be a citizen of their country under their King they served.

Some say the miracles the Apostles did were in the beginning of the gospel dispensation, and there is no need of them now, but the world is more wicked and in greater darkness since the world. God is the same and has the same interest in Man's salvation.

One would ask, why is it men are not doing like the Apostles? It is because of the great darkness; man does not believe he has been deceived, but when he sees himself and sees his foundation is not like the foundation that God wrote on the tables of stone, for this is the foundation that God gives for all mankind to build their christian structure on.

Now I hope you will cast away all self will and prejudices, if you have any, and try to look the way God would have you look at the condition of things from an unprejudiced christian standpoint, in the fear of God and not man, and see if we are building on the foundation God gave man.

God gave man the ten commandments, and in them is love thy neighbor as thyself. If man lies on his neighbor, takes the advantage of him or oppresses him in Church or State, little does he think he is endangering himself more than his neighbor, for if he had the love of God in him he wouldn't oppress his neighbor, but would rather suffer the wrong, but there is a cause for all this. Now let us consider the cause. It is

because he fails to live the commandments and have them written on the fleshy tablet of his heart, for in them there is something to attack every evil that is in man, for man is not willing to yield himself up to their teachings.

This is hard to the flesh; man refuses it and accepts the false God which Jesus warns against in John 17-3. That they may know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. This is the condition we are in now. They have accepted the commandments by letter and not upon the fleshy tablets of their heart, in it is the deceivableness of unrighteousness.

This is the condition of the church, and under the false God and false Christ, they are hoisting their banner only to be torn down, for this is great wickedness, and great darkness since the world. Whether they will hear or not they will forbear, they shall know there has been a prophet among them, thus saith the Lord.

In writing this book, the hardest thing I had to write was to proclaim that there had been a prophet among them. O, now I thought of Isaiah when he cried out in the words of Chapter 53, 1st verse. Who hath believed our report and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?

I saw him as never before standing before the people, telling them of the things that God had told him to tell them.

No wonder he cried out who hath believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? or in other words, who knows that these things are true?

In the anguish of his heart he cried for a witness to the truths he has proclaimed.

Think of one man standing, telling the people things they do not want to hear; and to have a witness is a help to any one, when he is telling the people something they do not want to hear, and do not see, and do not want to believe. But it must be proclaimed.

Man, Know Thyself.

“Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, let him return unto the Lord and he will have mercy upon him, and to our God for he will abundantly pardon,” Isaiah 55, 7th verse. Now this is conversion, plain and simple.

But this has been greatly attacked by the Anti-christ, for he is to oppose Jesus Christ as the devil corrupted God's creation by deceiving Eve, so the Anti-christ deceives man by feelings, this he offers man and man has accepted feeling for conversion, and he still has his bad habits; but man says, “he is converted because he feels his spirit (meaning the spirit of God),” but he is deceived, for this is the Anti-christ spirit which produces feeling without obedience to God. For

man opposes God after his conversion as before, but as men have said to the writer, I know I have been converted for I never had such feelings in my life, and I know I have been born of God, for I know I could not get such feelings from none but God. If man could believe while he was not deceived when Eve was, yet he was affected. This makes man easy to be deceived by the Anti-christ. The devil did not attack the greater, but he knew if he could deceive Eve, man would be affected as she is a part of man.

When Jesus came to redeem man the Anti-christ presented to man the deceivableness of unrighteousness as Jesus Christ came to convert man to God by the spirit. The Anti-christ don't want to stop conversion no more than the devil wants to stop multiplying for it has been corrupted. So the Anti-christ wants conversion for it has been corrupted when Jesus told them he beheld Satan falling from heaven as lightning, "the spirit of deceivableness of unrighteousness entered in them," this means that every good that God brings forth, he will meet it to keep man from believing Jesus, and as Jesus told his Apostles, "he would give them the spirit of truth to guide them in all truth," so the Anti-christ will direct the Anti-christ preacher in all things to oppose Jesus, and when Anti-christ preachers preach they say, "he don't do the things altogether right but he can preach, and I feel his preaching. I do not care what anybody may say, he has in him the

power." So he deceives, this makes the act. Now I will explain why you enjoy a bad preacher and I hope you will not let it pass your best thoughts. He has in him the deceiving spirit and when Eve was deceived, we have received the same as she.

This is hard for us to accept, so when the Anti-christ preacher appeals to us with his spirit we have the same deceivableness in us, but if we will do as we know we will get rid of this deceivableness if we will accept, Isa. 55th, 7th verse. "Let the wicked forsake his way" this is hard to do as it is altogether contrary to the deceivableness of unrighteousness.

When Jesus called his twelve disciples, Matt. 10, 1st, he gave them power against unclean spirits to cast them out and to heal all manners of sickness and all manners of diseases. And it came to pass that as they went in the way a certain man said unto him Lord, I will follow thee wheresoever thou goest, and Jesus said unto him, "foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head," and he said unto another, "follow me," but he said "Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father," Jesus said unto him, "let the dead bury the dead, but go thou and preach the kingdom of God," and another said "Lord I will follow thee, but let me first go bid them farewell which are at home at my house," and Jesus said unto him

“no man having put his hand to the plough and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God . ”

After these things the Lord appointed another seventy, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place whither he himself would come, and Jesus said, “go your way, behold I send you forth as lambs among wolves, and heal the sick that are therein and say unto them, the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you,” and the seventy returned again with joy saying, “Lord even the devils are subject unto us through thy name,” and he said unto them, “I beheld Satan as lightning falling from heaven,” and he entered in them, they had told Jesus, “devils were subject to them through his name,” but the Anti-christ what was to oppose Jesus Christ had entered into them; they won’t believe Jesus, thus the Anti-christ has accomplished his purpose to turn man against Jesus, as the devil turned man against God, and because they could not understand these spiritual things, with a natural mind, for the natural man receives not the things of God neither can he know them for they are spiritually discerned. Therefore, they received the Anti-christ spirit. For to meet man’s condition there must be a spiritual law, thus Jesus comes with the law of the spirit. When the devil made man break the natural law that God gave him, then all of the laws that governs God’s creations were affected, and to man’s destructions.

One day after a storm, I was asked what caused them, I said, I do not know, but I cannot think God sends cyclones and earthquakes to destroy towns and swallow up cities, and lightning to the destruction of things ; but I believe in time God will make it plain to man. Therefore, God sent his Son with the law of the spirit of life to destroy the law of sin and death, for the law of the spirit is strong in the flesh, for it destroys the cause that makes the act, thus we find man stopping things which seems impossible for him to stop ; thus he is on his way back to the law that has not been broken, which is the law of the spirit of life, and as man finds this law, the law that has been working destruction to him, will lose its force.

I knew a man who was a drunkard and he said, "Oh ! I wish I could be like you, I would give anything to stop this habit, but I cannot," he was under the law of sin and death to the destruction of many but there are other evils just as binding as the drinking habit, Oh ! man break the law of sin and death that holds you, you can do it. The spiritual law is strong in the flesh, it really will destroy the cause that makes the act, all other laws that has been affected to the destruction of man, will be affected by the spiritual law to the good of man, for by man's obedience, the spiritual law will work obediences to him in all things. Therefore, in the new heaven and

new earth, in which dwelleth righteousness, there will be no destructive laws to man.

Isaiah 11th chapter from the 6th to 9th verse, reads, "That the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion, and the fatling together and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall feed, their young ones shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox, the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice den, they shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, and if man will obey God, then Jesus brings him into a spiritual fight. Thus Jesus shows him, he must cleanse his thoughts, this attacks the things, that made him act against God, and if he will fight in the spiritual law, as he did in the natural law, then he will have overcome the Anti-christ and he will find, he has no desire to disobey God, but it will be as Jesus says, "Satan comes and finds nothing in me."

In the 6th chapter of St. John, beginning at the 51st verse, Jesus says, "I am the living bread, which cometh down from heaven, if any man eats of this bread he shall live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

In verse 63rd Jesus also says, "It's the spirit that quickeneth ; the flesh profiteth nothing ; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, they are life," thus you see how Jesus explained to them, that he wasn't telling them that they were to eat his literal flesh, but the bread that cometh down from heaven, was the life giving, and He says, " the bread I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. " They said, " this is a hard saying, who can hear it? " And many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then Jesus said unto the twelve, will ye also go away ? Simon Peter answered him, saying, " Lord, to whom shall we go ? Thou hast the words of eternal life, and we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God." Therefore, the twelve stayed with him, and learned about the things Jesus had said about the bread. There is but one way, man can know the things of God, and that is by believing him, and keeping his commandments, which thing the seventy didn't do, but the twelve when they had learned them warned the people.

In the 1st chapter of John, he says, " beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the spirit of God. Every spirit that confesseth, that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God ;

And this is that spirit of Anti-christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come, and even now already it is in the world. " "They are of the world." Therefore, speak they of the world, and the world heareth them, we are of God. He that knoweth God heareth us, he that is not of God, heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

Now if man will believe God, and keep his commandments, he will show him the spirit of error, as he did to his twelve disciples, that we warn others also.

Jesus said to Peter, "when thou art converted strengthen the brethren," Jesus came to convert man to God that he might receive his spirit and overcome the devil, but the anti-christ wants man converted to him that they may receive the spirit of the anti-christ, and oppose the things of Jesus Christ.

Man was born in sin and shapen in iniquity. Iniquity is an unjust deal. This was man's condition when he came into the world. Now he has not made any choice one way or the other, but God created man in his own image, and when Eve was deceived then she received the image of the devil this she gave Adam, and the devil had accomplished his purpose, by corrupting God's creations. Then they began to multiply, and Eve bare a son and said, "I have gotten a man from the Lord," now this man was a murderer,

she was deceived, for this was a child of the devil. Now she did not know what effect her disobedience would have on her children, but the devil knew that the children would receive the same deceiving spirit that she had received ; this is the unjust deal, and to meet this unjust deal, God gave his son to come after man to convert him to God by the spirit, and conversion is to believe God, and believe he is a rewarder of those that diligently seek him. Therefore, man will seek him by keeping his commandments, and this binds that strong man that entered into him by the unjust deal. Matthew 12th chapter, 29th verse. Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house and spoil his goods except he first bind the strong man? And then he will spoil his house.

Wherefore the law is our school-master, to bring us to Christ that we may be justified by faith. Jesus says in St. John 14th chapter 20th verse, "In that day ye shall know that I am in the Father and ye in me and I in you." Thus you see how they became to be one. This is a great mystery, but if they will do his will they will know the doctrine. Though man is far away, he can come back, though the path is narrow he can walk in it.

When Jesus was led by the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil he gave his flesh for the life of the world. He was led into

the wilderness to fight the great battle for man's eternal life in the same flesh that the devil had control of. If Jesus had yielded we would not have had eternal life, for the devil would have controlled the flesh that the spirit of God was in, but he could not. Thus he offers us eternal life, and if we would have this life we must give our flesh for the life of the world, as Jesus did. Jesus says to man, "Greater works shall ye do than I have done," the greater work is this while Jesus had in his flesh all the passions of sin, yet he did not practice any of them, and he was born of a Virgin; we are born in sin and shapened in iniquity and in sin did our mothers conceive us, and if man will obey as Jesus shows him, this is greater work than Jesus done.

Eve was created good, but she listened to the instructions of the devil, thus she became bad, and bore a son, he was the same as she to carry out the things that had entered into her by believing the devil.

Mary was born of the flesh with all the things that had entered into Eve's flesh against God, and Jesus was born not according to the flesh but of God, but came through the flesh that had been defiled by Eve's disobedience as Cain was. Therefore, Mary listened to the things God told her contrary to the passions of the flesh, and she brought forth a son to carry out the things according to the instructions of

God, and not according to the things of her flesh. For the difference between Eve and Mary and Cain and Jesus is one was bad by believing the devil ; she produced the kind that he wanted to carry out the things as they are in him, and Mary was born in sin and shapen in iniquity, with all the passion of sin, yet through the instruction of God she did not yield to them, and she brought forth a son to carry out the things that was told her of God as the devil told Eve things that was contrary to her creation. Thus she accepted his instructions, born a son to carry them out, and Mary born contrary to God yet received the instructions of God and brought forth a son that carried out the things contrary to her flesh. Therefore, we must stand the temptations as they come.

We claim that Christ has entered into us, if so, then we have the same power to keep us as Jesus had. My dear reader, we must give our flesh for the life of the world by standing the trials.

The man that has Christ in him will stand, but those that have received the Anti-Christ will yield to the flesh, for happiness or madness both depends on how they feel, for they are Anti-Christ converts with the same passions for things against God as Eve had received. The strong man hasn't as much as been bound, his house hasn't been entered, nor his goods spoiled, so he

has them all. Therefore, they live in adultery, they break up families, and ruin their daughters. Jesus says of them, " Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites ! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him two fold more the child of hell than yourselves." This is the Gospel which Jesus Christ taught his twelve disciples.

The seventy refused to hear it, therefore, they accepted the Anti-Christ conversion which is feeling ; this is hard to explain, for there is some truth in feeling, but this is that deceiving spirit strong fort, for they still do bad and yet get happy from feelings.

I knew a young woman who had lived the life and did not depend on feeling, but done the things of God, and she taken sick, and the night she died she said to the writer, I have not any choice to go or stay, and nothing to lean on, but I know I have done the will of God, then after she said, " I heard a voice, " she looked up, got up and shouted, and when they laid her down she was dead. Now, she was happy, this was feeling, and also the knowledge of doing the things of God. The Anti-Christ converts depends on feelings for their acceptance to God. This spirit converts and makes them depend wholly on feeling. Therefore, the Anti-Christ preachers are converted by this deceiving spirit, and do not believe the things of God.

In 1st Thess. 2nd Chapter reads, "Now we beseech you brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be ye troubled neither by spirit nor by word nor by letter as from us that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed. The son of perdition, who opposeth and exalted himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not that when I was yet with you, I told you these things, and now ye know what with holdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now letteth will let until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that wicked be revealed whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Even him whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonder, and with all deceiveableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because they received not the love of the truth that they may be saved, for men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil, for everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds shall be reproved."

When Eve bore Cain and Abel, Cain was not sincere, but Abel was, and God had respect to Abel's offering, but not to Cain's then Cain killed Abel. Think you Eve wanted this done, yet she was the mother of all evil, and it will come out in her posterity. For when God began to tell his plans to bring man back through his prophets, then they began to kill them, that they may stop his plans; when the wise men came to Bethlehem and went to Herod he tried to get them to betray Jesus into his hands that he might kill him, and when he found they did not do it he had all the children killed from two years old and under, in this he failed to get Jesus because Jesus was to come, man was to see him, and he was to proclaim himself the son of God. The devil knew this was his time, and Judas was born under the plan of the devil. Jesus says, "woe unto that man, by whom the son of man is betrayed, it had been good for that man if he had not been born, but God wants man born to him, and he offers us a complete redemption through his son.

The devil told man, "he would become as God, to know good and evil, but he didn't think he'd ever get knowledge with power to overcome him, therefore note the plan of salvation that was laid to bring man back. A careful, strong plan from Seth on down, a little more binding until Moses came with the Mosaic law, then after this

God gave him the ten commandments, this attacks all the things that entered into man, but don't move them ; thus Moses gave them a bill of divorcement, and when Christ came, they asked him for divorcements, but he wouldn't give them any, and they told him that Moses did, and Jesus said, " Moses gave you this on the account of the hardness of your heart, but it was not so from the beginning. "

Now Jesus came to bring man back, when God created them they were one, but when the devil tempted Eve, and she yielded to him then she left Adam, and she received the image of the devil, this was the first divorcement, then she came after man and explained to him the things the devil had told her he accepted the things, and both became one again in the image of the devil. Therefore, Jesus comes after the man who has lost his image, but not to restore his image, but to make him the son of God by putting in him the same spirit that was in Jesus when he was born in this world in the form of sinful flesh.

Thus he is a part of God, a strong man and will stand the temptations as they come for the knowledge of God has been put in him and then man will go after woman to bring her to God as she went after him to tell him things of the devil, so he will tell her the things of God, and she will understand the unjust deal that fell on her

children by her disobedience. She will receive the spirit that he tells her of, as man received the spirit that she told him of, and woman will be subject to her husband, but not like the deceptableness of unrighteousness makes people believe. For woman is not to be subject to man in all things, who has not been redeemed and had the plan of salvation in him. For there are some women whom men have to be subject to in all things to keep them up from ruin and destruction.

Man was not deceived, but the woman, so God sent his son after man to save him by the law of the spirit which puts in him the plan of salvation, and he will go after woman, and she will be subject to her husband in all things, then man will explain to woman how children are born in sin, and shapened in iniquity, and in sin do mothers conceive them, then they will not multiply, for they will have received the knowledge of good and evil, as God makes it plain to man, and this can only be done by believing God and obeying him. Thus man will receive the spirit of truth which brings all things to his remembrance; now this does not mean that man will know God fully, but if he will be faithful he will show him all the truths for his day and generation.

In the days of Abraham and Lot, they lived up to the things that God told them, but this would not do in Moses' day, because God told

him things different and required more from him. In the gospel dispensation the faithfulness of Moses would not meet the requirements of the gospel dispensation.

Paul says, "God had revealed things to him that had been hidden from the foundation of the world," he also says, "the mystery of iniquity doth already work, only he who now letteth will let until he be taken out of the way and then shall that wicked be revealed," this is now no longer a mystery, for it has been revealed, and man has accepted, but there were only a few believed Abraham in his day, only a few believed Moses, and only a few believed Jesus in his day, and there will be but a few who will believe the things in this day, and do them, but with this knowledge we will not multiply, but will wait until there is a new heaven and a new earth in which dwelleth righteousness, and every seed receives its own body. For Jesus says, "how can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." Therefore, we know our bodies are corrupted, and it is impossible for it to bring forth good fruit, so we will not multiply according to the natural law which has been affected by man's disobedience to oppose God and to man's destruction, for we have received the law of the spirit of knowledge, good and evil, which destroys the cause that makes the act, with this knowledge we will be obedient to

God in all things as he shows us, for there will be a day when the Church will lift high the standard, for the glory of the Lord will shine more and more until the perfect day.

The time will be when men and women will have the highest respect for each other, but will not come together to multiply, for they will understand the law of the spirit of life, and they will wait for a new heaven and new earth that is governed by a spiritual law, for God is preparing his people for his second coming and he will receive them unto himself in Rev. 14th chapter 3rd and 4th verses reads, "and they sang as it were a new song, before the throne and before the beast, and the elders and no man could learn that song, but the hundred and forty and four thousand which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women, for they are Virgins, and what makes them Virgins is they have followed the teachings of Jesus and he shows them about the new birth, which is spiritual, and they will not yield to the natural law. This is redemption by revelation plain and simple.

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